

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M: 18-33
(date entered 5-13-80)

1. Name: Log House

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 18/33 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 13
I-4

4. Address: Black Rock Road, Germantown

5. Classification Summary

Category	<u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording	<u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership	<u>private</u>	Title and Date:	<u>1976 Inventory of</u>
Public Acquisition	<u>N/A</u>		<u>Historical Sites</u>
Status	<u>occupied</u>		
Accessible	<u>no</u>	Federal	<u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u>
Present use	<u>private residence</u>		

6. Date: 1880-1895

7. Original Owner: Nicholas Offutt Sr. or Jr.

8. Apparent Condition

a. fair b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This three bay by one bay, two-and-a-half story log and frame house faces northwest. The log walls were first covered by clapboards and later by white asbestos shingles. The northwest porch is enclosed; it has a shed roof. A two story addition was built at the north corner of the northwest elevation. There are six-over-six double hung windows. The house has a gable roof covered by grey asbestos shingles. This house served for a time as a tenant farm for the farm on which it is located.

10. Significance: This property was part of the estate that also included Black Rock Mill, until the early 20th century. The log house was probably built between 1880 and 1895, either by Nicholas Offutt Sr. or his son Nicholas. Offutt Sr. had purchased Black Rock Mill in 1859 from the Hilleary family. Henry Hilleary appears in the 1783 Tax Records as owning 355 acres and a number of buildings. A nephew, Thomas Hilleary, erected the three story stone mill house in 1815. The mill was a successful enterprise during Hilleary's tenure; however, it had fallen into disrepair at the time Offutt bought it.

Offutt had repaired the mill and was leasing it at the time this log cabin was built. Lying at the northern boundary of the property, it was too far removed from the mill to qualify as one of the remaining buildings of the Hilleary establishment.

The log house changed owners eight times before the present owner's purchase in 1972.

11. Researcher and date researched: Anne W. Cissel-8/79

Candy Reed
Arch. Description

12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock

13. Date Compiled: 10/79

14. Designation
Approval

15. Acreage: 15.6 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 18/33

MAGI#

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Log House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Black Rock Road

CITY, TOWN

Germantown

☒ VICINITY OF

Seneca State Park

8

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Seneca Limited Partnership

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

c/o John W. Davidge, Jr.
1747 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C. — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20006

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 4219

Folio #: 797

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay by one bay, two-and-a-half story log and frame house faces northwest.

Built on fieldstone foundations, the log walls were first covered by clapboards and later by white asbestos shingles. On the northwest elevation there is an enclosed porch, built on cinderblock foundations, with a shed roof. The northwest (front) door is modern and wooden paneled. There is a two story addition at the north corner of the northwest elevation. The southeast elevation has no porch, but there is a glass and wooden paneled door.

The house has six-over-six double-hung windows. The gable roof is covered by grey asbestos shingles. There are two chimneys at the north-east and southwest elevations. The southwest chimney has a massive field-stone base and brick stack.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:18-33

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1880-1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This property, part of "Sprained Ankle", until the early 20th century was part of the estate that also included Black Rock Mill.

The 1783 tax records show Henry Hilleary owning 355 acres of "Black Rock" and 100 acres of "Barren Hills" and "...small log dwelling house, kitchen, negro quarters with 2 or 3 convenient outhouses, log corn house, stable, barn and tobacco houses." Hilleary also owned 15 slaves.

The land was resurveyed for Hilleary in 1789 and renamed "Sprained Ankle". By his will of 1792 he left the land to various nieces and nephews, one of whom, Thomas Hilleary, bought out the interests of the others. The three-story stone mill house was erected in 1815.

The mill was a successful enterprise during Hilleary's tenure; however, he left the property to his son and daughter, and it fell into disrepair. Nicholas D. Offutt paid \$1,300 for the mill and 30 acres and \$1,232 for the contiguous 154 acres of "Sprained Ankle" in 1859.¹ The estate remained in litigation until 1866 when Offutt's purchase and title were finally ratified.²

The site of the present log cabin lies on the northern boundary, described as being at a corner stake planted in 1869 between the Offutt and Warfield lands.³ The cabin would be, therefore, too far removed from the immediate area around the mill to qualify as one of the remaining outbuildings of the Hilleary establishment.

The first record of this cabin on the tax rolls appears in the 1896 tax records, which list improvements worth \$200 on a 20 acre parcel of "Sprained Ankle".⁴ Nicholas Offutt Sr. died in 1891 and his son Nicholas Jr. in 1906; unfortunately the records and documents concerning the division of this estate are missing from the Courthouse, although the Equity number (2349) and dockets are filed.

Oden Lusby purchased a 15.6 acre parcel for \$650 in 1905,⁵ perhaps part of the 20 acres mentioned above. In the tax years 1910-1918 he had improvements worth \$350 and livestock.

From the above records it appears likely that the log cabin dates from between 1880 and 1895. The owner after Lusby may have erected a newer, more modern house or substantially improved the property since its sale price in 1921 was \$2,300; however, by 1928 it was again for sale at \$4,000.⁶ The 15.6 acres changed hands again three more times between 1928 and the purchase by John and Hugh Thompson in 1953.⁷ The lot size remained constant during this period, and the 1869 boundary stake is frequently mentioned. The parcel was absorbed into a larger tract of 133.273 acres by the present owner's purchase in 1972.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery Land, Judgment, and Assessment Records.
Hopkins Atlas (1879).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15.6 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Anne W. Cissel

Candy Reed

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

August 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Log House

FOOTNOTES:

1. Montgomery County Judgment Records, JGH 3/320 (1859).
2. Ibid., EBP 1/49.
3. See Hopkins Atlas (1879).
4. Montgomery County Assessment Records, (1896), p. 106.
5. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., 190/489 (November 20, 1905).
6. Ibid., 308/26 (1921) and 462/317 (1928).
7. Ibid., 1802/477 (June 4, 1953).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1604165404

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>Log House/Blackrock Road</u>				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Blackrock Road</u>				
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Germantown</u>				
STATE: <u>Maryland</u>		COUNTY: <u>Montgomery</u>		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: <u>Weaver Brothers</u>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>5530 Wisconsin Avenue</u>				
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Chevy Chase</u>		STATE: <u>Maryland</u>		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <u>Montgomery County Courthouse</u>				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Rockville</u>		STATE: <u>Maryland</u>		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: <u>None</u>				
DATE OF SURVEY: _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:18-33

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two story, log structure with external stone chimney bases with brick stacks. There is a doorway at the south end of the two bay main (east) facade; windows are 6/6 double hung sash. The logs are covered with weatherboarding beneath the present asbestos siding.

The present facade was once the rear; it has a two story el with a shed roof.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

2. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ losophy☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ itarian☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Access to the house was originally from Germantown Road (present Rte. 118); the building may well have been a tenant house to a larger farm house closer to the main road.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:18-33

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

22 May 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



NAME #18-33 Log House - Black Rock Rd.

LOCATION Black Rock Rd., Germantown, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 5/22/74 M. Rwyer